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EQUAL OIL RIGHTS.

In the past the United States has pursued a policy of liberality and equality in allowing foreign countries to acquire oil lands and to develop oil industries in this country. Foreign corporations, backed by their governments, have acquired large oil interests on equal terms with Americans without restrictions or discrimination. But Great Britain and France have for the past five years been working together systematically to exclude all other countries from oil production in their territories. In the Russian fields England and France have established a fifty-fifty sharing policy in all production by either country. Of the total world production this year of 600,000,000 barrels, the United States will produce 450,000,000 barrels, as against 150,000,000 barrels for the remainder of the world. The United States, Mexico and Russia produce 90 per cent of all the oil in the world and this country uses three times as much oil and oil products as all the rest of the world.

As oil products are essential to land, sea and air transportation in peace or war, it is important that this country be given the same opportunity to enter foreign fields as others have had to enter this country and to develop oil properties here. While it is true that the production of the United States is vastly larger than that of any other nation, it is also true that consumption here is so much greater that a shortage of oil and oil products is approaching and in order to combat this, the United States must enter foreign fields as well as develop potential fields within its borders. According to reports, the British government has recently removed restrictions forbidding foreigners from securing oil concessions in territory controlled by them, but it can be regarded as a certainty that Great Britain has gobbled up all the choice locations or she would never be allowing such privileges as these. The United States government will be seriously neglecting the interests of this country if it does not insist upon the right of Americans to enter foreign oil fields on equal terms with other nations.

THE PRIMARY LAW SHOULD BE REVISED

The revision of the laws providing for primaries such as are now held in the state of Nevada, and a return to the convention system of nominations, is one of the first things which should be taken up by the next legislature. The direct primary system has been tried in a number of other states and everywhere that it is in operation one finds much objection to it, but in only a few of the states has either party had sufficient backbone to do away with it. Its supporters have built up a lot of poppycock traditions about the wonderful effect it would have, but the actual results of it have not shown any improvement over the old system, and it has a large number of disadvantages. In Idaho under a direct primary in the election of 1918 the notorious Nonpartisan league stole the Democratic organization and the real Democrats of the state were left without a party. This year in Montana the same thing happened and there the robbery was so plain that one of the Democratic senators openly espoused the cause of the Republican state candidates. This danger, of which the above are but two of many examples, is one of the biggest objections to the direct primary system.

Another objection which looms large in these days of high taxes is the fact that the present primary system practically doubles the expenses of elections, both to the candidates and to the state. Elections are costly affairs when one considers the number of precincts that are in the state and the number of election officials necessary for either a primary or a general election. The convention system offers a cheap and satisfactory substitute for the primary, and there is nothing to be feared from it today. The day of the political boss is past, and that was the only real objection ever offered against the convention system of nomination. The entire system of government in this country is based upon the principle of representation and that is exactly what the convention system in party nominations amounts to, when it is reduced to its simplest form. Whatever objections can be raised against the party convention can also be raised against the governments of the United States, which is based on the same principle. Both parties in the legislature should get together and profit by the experience which other states as well as this one have had and speedily pass the necessary laws to return to the convention system of nominations.

WON'T MR. DEBS GIVE THE WORLD ANOTHER CHANCE?

Mr. Debs has decided he doesn't want to be pardoned, because he would rather be in the Atlanta prison than at large under the present chaotic conditions of society. That is his conclusion after studying the results of the election and observing things in general. Things are more or less upended to be sure. Something to that effect has been remarked by many who have not even the advantage of observing them from the quiet and seclusion of Mr. Debs' retreat. Even the Democratic leaders have remarked the chaos, and the oldest and most experienced of them admit there hasn't been such a some of wreckage and confusion in their memory. It's almost enough to make them wish they were in a position to wash their hands of it, too.

But probably more philosophic reflections will prevail in the end, even with Mr. Debs. We all feel at times that there isn't any possible use in going ahead with the world, and the temptation is strong to drop it and let it smash. We think, when we feel that way, that it would be a pleasure just to hear it burst in pieces and to see the poor wrecked humans crawling out from under the debris and raising imploring hands to us to take hold again and permit the world to go on, even in a lame and imperfect condition. We really do ourselves an injustice when we feel that way, for when it comes to the test few of us have the cruelty to do it.

Mr. Debs, while he has had much to irritate him, is not the man to stand aside and let the world do itself a permanent injury for want of a guiding hand. He will relent, we are sure, before things have quite reached their worst and consent to see us through the woods. After all, the world has a right to expect a little consideration from Mr. Debs, for unless he has been very much mis-construed, he has himself contributed something to the condition of

society of which he now complains. The state of society's health is a good deal dependent upon the proper functioning of all its member parts. Has Mr. Debs done nothing to break down this essential co-operation?

But there, the question shall not be pressed. Mr. Debs is not the only member of society who has not done his whole part to make the scheme work, and as not all of them are in Atlanta prison, there's no use singling him out. Only, he is making the complaint about society being in such a mess, and that seems to be part of the answer why it is so. He had a spoon in it and was stirring vigorously when interrupted.

None the less, the world doesn't want Mr. Debs to desert it. It wants him to give it another chance and to help it along. And maybe it will do better after recent events. The war is over, the election is over, prices are down a little, the league of nations is off our chests, and Christmas is coming. Why shouldn't everybody get together and tell the world it can try again? It would be just like the world to go staggering along anyway, without our good will, so why not try how it will make out this time with it?—Goldfield Tribune.

U. S. and France Will Fight Tuberculosis

(Correspondence of Associated Press)

PARIS, Oct. 31. The Rockefeller Foundation, which has been assisting France in its fight against tuberculosis for the last three years, has turned over to the complete control of France an elaborate anti-tuberculosis organization which has been developed in the department Eure-et-Loir at a cost of 4,000,000 francs. The organization, the most complete for its purpose in France, consists of 24 dispensaries, four complete isolation services, a departmental sanatorium and a modern departmental laboratory. In addition to this, the Rockefeller Foundation has started among the children of the department an organization known as the Modern Health Crusaders, a system of child education having for its object the prevention of tuberculosis by the thorough teaching of hygiene.

Although it will not be possible to duplicate the Eure-et-Loir system, it will be used by the other departments of France as a general model. The Rockefeller Foundation is assisting the French people in their campaign against consumption in 38 of the 87 departments and work probably will continue for the next 15 months or two years.

W. P. WILL USE COAL AS FUEL

The Western Pacific is preparing to resume the use of coal for fuel on its engines between Winnemucca and Salt Lake City, says the Humboldt Star. The date for making the change has not been announced, but orders have been given to rebuild the coal chutes at this place and material is arriving for the construction. It will take some time to rebuild coal chutes along the line, change the engines back to coal burners and obtain sufficient storage at the various coaling stations to insure the continuous operation of trains. When the Western Pacific was first built coal was used for fuel on the entire line. After a year or so the change was made to oil over the system and this fuel has been

used continuously since.

Increased cost of oil and shortage is given as the reason for making the change back to coal. Another probable reason is that the Western Pacific and D. & R. G. are said to own a controlling interest in Utah and Colorado coal mines and hence the use of coal for fuel is more economical for them than oil, the price of which is steadily increasing.

It is reported that coal burners are also to be used west of Winnemucca as well as between this place and Salt Lake City, but this cannot be verified.

TAX NOTICE

The first installment of 1920 taxes is now due and payable at the treasurer's office. Taxes will be delinquent on the first Monday in December.

L. E. GLASS,
 Treasurer of Nye County, Nevada.

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